



## **USMC WINNERS NAMED FOR FY14 SECNAV AND SECDEF ENVIRONMENTAL AWARDS**

**ARLINGTON, Va.** – Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp Lejeune, MCB Camp Butler and Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center (MCAGCC) Twentynine Palms were among the big winners in the annual Secretary of the Navy (SECNAV) Environmental Awards, each capturing honors in two of the awards' ten categories.

Other installations receiving accolades from the Secretary of the Navy include Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island, MCB Hawaii, and Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort. The SECNAV winners went on to compete against all of the other services in the Secretary of Defense (SECDEF) Environmental Awards, with MCB Camp Lejeune, MCB Camp Butler and MCAGCC Twentynine Palms winning three of the nine SECDEF environmental awards categories.

Each year, SECDEF and SECNAV issue environmental awards to honor individuals, teams, and installations for their outstanding achievements and innovative work protecting the environment while sustaining mission readiness. Honorees demonstrate excellence in maintaining and restoring America's natural resources and cultural heritage for future generations, all while carrying out the DoD mission.

In announcing the awards, the Honorable Ray Mabus, Secretary of the Navy, said of the winners, "Through your collaborative efforts and partnership with internal and external stakeholders, you protected endangered species, fought invasive species, obtained regulatory permits and authorizations efficiently, produced high-quality and defensible environmental planning, generated alternative and innovative solutions, reduced waste, decreased costs, engaged in groundbreaking community relations, and accelerated our environmental program."

"Marine Corps installations continue to support the warfighting mission through outstanding environmental management," said Major General Juan G. Ayala, Commander, MCICOM. "These awards represent the strength of those individual installations' environmental programs and also the contributions of all Marines, uniformed and civilian, and family members. Protecting natural and cultural resources, identifying sustainability initiatives, planning for future requirements and continued installation restoration efforts all aid in preserving our ability to live, work and train on the lands entrusted to us."

The Marine Corps installations winning in each category are:

### ***Natural Resources (Large Installation)***

Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, CA

### ***Environmental Quality (Industrial Installation)***

Marine Corps Support Facility Blount Island, FL



***Environmental Quality (Overseas Installation)***

Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler, Okinawa, Japan\*

***Sustainability (Non-industrial Installation)***

Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, CA\*

***Sustainability (Individual or Team)***

Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, Environmental Management, Resource Conservation and Recovery Section, NC

***Environmental Restoration (Installation)***

Marine Corps Installations East - Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, NC\*

***Cultural Resources Management (Small Installation)***

Marine Corps Base Hawaii, HI

***Cultural Resources Management (Individual or Team)***

Mr. Masayuki Yonaha and Mr. Robert Peterson, Marine Corps Base Camp Smedley D. Butler Cultural Resource Team, Okinawa, Japan

***Environmental Planning (Team)***

Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort – Townsend Bombing Range Integrated Planning Team, SC

\* indicates the installation went on to win the Secretary of Defense Environmental award

For more information about SECNAV/SECDEF Environmental Awards, please contact Maj Anne Braden, Marine Corps Installations Command ([anne.braden@usmc.mil](mailto:anne.braden@usmc.mil)).

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Photos and captions for story:



Caption:

*Irrigation of turf and landscaped areas require large quantities of water, especially in arid climates like Twentynine Palms. MCAGCC is using desert landscaping, synthetic turf, and shade structures like those shown here at the new MCAGCC sports complex to minimize the need for irrigation water. In addition, recycled water from the MCAGCC wastewater treatment plant is used to irrigate the Base golf course.*



Caption:

*Okinawa, Japan is known for its beautiful beaches, pristine water, and rich marine resources – with more than 340 coral species, three times more than recorded species at the Great Barrier Reef. Marine Corps Base Camp Butler's innovative soil erosion efforts have been instrumental in protecting this vital coral habitat.*